



**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT SAC Letter (55-40)

FILE NUMBER SAC Letter 55-40

SECTION NUMBER 1



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Soviet citizens are to be placed into effect immediately. They were also advised that despite the exemptions set forth in the note to the Soviet Ambassador, source material of any type (such as Coast Pilots and Tide Tables) which supplement navigational and hydrographic maps and charts will not be made available for procurement by Soviet citizens in the United States.

CFW memo Belmont to Boardman 6-16-55
(N) CITIZENS COUNCILS AND STATES' RIGHTS MOVEMENTS - INTERNAL SECURITY - X - Since Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954, reintegration of Negroes and whites in public schools, autonomous organizations under various names have been formed in ten states for the ostensible purpose of maintaining segregation. These organizations are for the most part made up of prominent citizens who are opposed to any use of force and violence. These groups disclaim affiliation with or similarity to the Ku Klux Klan and avowedly intend to achieve their objective by exerting economic pressure on members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Negro voters and integrationists.

Bureau policy is that we do not investigate groups that advocate and employ legal means to achieve their objective; however, where advisable the field is authorized to investigate organizations established for purpose of combatting or advocating affirmative action against racial minorities or seeking to deprive individuals of their rights under the Constitution.

Upon receipt of information concerning formation of such an organization in your territory you should advise the Bureau immediately by letter setting forth pertinent data relative to the organization and individuals connected therewith. No investigation should be conducted without prior Bureau authority.

The Department has advised that conspiracy to injure or intimidate Negro citizens in their rights to vote by threats of personal injury, application of economic pressure or otherwise, would seem to be violative of the provisions of Title 18, U.S.C. 241. At such time as integration is made mandatory under the Supreme Court decision of May 31, 1955, or prior thereto, these organizations or individual members may take extralegal action possibly resulting in civil rights violations. I am vitally concerned with this possibility and desire that we have complete data relative to these organizations and their members prior to any incidents which may take place. You will be held personally responsible to furnish the

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Bureau promptly data relative to the formation of these organizations and thereafter to take necessary action to keep the Bureau apprised on a continuing basis of all pertinent developments.

In view of the nature of these groups, your inquiries should be handled most discreetly in order to avoid any embarrassment to the Bureau. Whenever possible inquiries should be directed to established reliable sources only.

For your information reports submitted on these organizations will be furnished the Department for consideration under Executive Order 10450 whereby the Attorney General may designate any organization which has "adopted a policy of advocating or approving the commission of acts of force and violence to deny others their rights under the Constitution of the United States."

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover

Director

Attachments for (D) & (L)

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